

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

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PREPARED FOR

THE INDIANAPOLIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BY THE

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA



*National Recreation Association*

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

PREPARED FOR THE  
GENERAL CIVIC IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
INDIANAPOLIS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

JANUARY—MARCH—1914



COMPILED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF  
THE PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION  
ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA .

FRANCIS R. NORTH, Field Secretary

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U. S. N. S.  
JUL 17 1914

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce.

Gentlemen:

The movement initiated some two months ago by the General Civic Improvements Committee and approved by your Board, to have made a recreation survey of Indianapolis, under the supervision of the Playground and Recreation Association of America, has accomplished results worthy of your further consideration. The survey has been conducted by Francis R. North, Field Secretary of the national organization. His report is herewith appended. Its perusal shows that he has made an exhaustive and thoughtful study of our recreation facilities, indoor and outdoor, for children, youth and adults; that commendable progress has been made, and a great deal more might be accomplished at a very slight expenditure; that in view of the city's rapid growth very much more should be undertaken for the healthful recreation and happiness of the people—young as well as older. The report should prove a powerful stimulus in the interest of an adequate and proper recreation development of the city.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK B. WYNN,

Chairman General Civic Improvements Committee.

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## Introduction

In December, 1913, an invitation was extended to the Playground and Recreation Association of America to send a field secretary to study recreation conditions in Indianapolis and to make a report on the same in the form of a recreation survey. Mr. Francis R. North spent two months and a half in this work. The survey has been done under the auspices of the General Civic Improvements Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, of which Dr. Frank B. Wynn is the chairman.

The purposes of the report have been (a) to find out where the districts are that are fundamentally most in need of outdoor play and recreation facilities and good indoor recreation as a means of fostering home and neighborhood life (b) to show what facilities and what kinds of recreation are already provided by public authorities, by private organizations, and by commercial enterprises, (c) to show what facilities and what kinds of recreation are needed and where, (d) to show how facilities now owned by the city may be utilized for play and recreation, and what are the needed additions, (e) to explain the needs in the way of organization and administration of public recreation, (f) the function and possibilities of privately conducted recreation, (g) the position of commercial enterprises and the correct public attitude toward them. (h) The report concludes with a summary of definite recommendations.

The beginnings already made in organized public playgrounds, in public baths, in the recreative use of parks, and in neighborhood recreations furthered by private enterprise are a tribute to the energy and foresight of groups of citizens and officials who have realized the significance of a movement absolutely fundamental in building solid citizenship and in providing right living conditions. Many of the recommendations here given are based upon plans already conceived and initiated.

Where changes in policy are advocated, they are put forward as constructive suggestions and not as criticisms. The rapid growth of many of our large

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cities has brought similar problems that have had to be met by similar suggestions and changes.

It would have been impossible to secure the information here given without the valuable help of many to whom grateful acknowledgement is given.

**POINT OF VIEW**—Every city has its own problems, and its own conditions to meet. Between the influence of the home and that of the school, in the case of the children, and that of the business occupation, in the case of those older, lies the influence of the leisure time—a tremendously important factor. The educational necessity of play-life in children has been increasingly recognized. Surroundings which make good or bad play conditions, profitable or demoralizing uses of spare time, make or mar the task of the school and the home. The play-life is frequently the determining influence as to whether a child shall grow up into healthy, vigorous manhood or womanhood, with good ideals, and a normal outlook upon life. Likewise, good habits of leisure for young men and women and adults, chances for a wholesome outlet for abounding spirits, and for normal means of self-expression in profitable work and good social life, must not be denied. The alternatives have too often been lives lived below their best possibilities, not to mention actually bad social and moral conditions.

In making the studies outlined above only actual facts have been sought. The congestion in the city proper means different conditions from those in outlying districts. The purpose has been to get correct observation and testimony, and to avoid any generalization not clearly substantiated by the facts.

# PART ONE

## Recreation Needs of Indianapolis

### I. FACILITIES FOR OUTDOOR PLAY AND RECREATION IN NEIGHBORHOODS:

#### 1. Distribution of Population

As a basis for a correct understanding of the size and nature of the leisure time problem of the city it is necessary to know the population and how it is divided as to locality. It is particularly desirable to know where population is congested and needed play and legitimate recreation likely to be hampered or made impossible because of lack of facilities, and where freer and more open conditions prevail.

The estimated population in the directory of 1913 is 265,000. The school census of 1913 shows that children and youth from five to twenty-one years of age number 55,127. In 1910 the school population represented 22.1 per cent. of the entire population of 233,650. Counting all the adults and the infants under five years, the total population is usually about five times the school census figures.

The area of the entire city can be divided into the following types according to the number of the school population dwelling within the average tract of forty acres, including the streets and alleys. The table also shows the per cent. of school population dwelling in the various types.

	School Population in 40 acres	Per cent. of School Population
Type I	In districts with 301 to 500 dwell .....	10 per cent.
Type II	In districts with 251 to 300 dwell .....	13 per cent.
Type III	In districts with 201 to 250 dwell .....	19 per cent.
Type IV	In districts with 151 to 200 dwell .....	13 per cent.
Type V	In districts with 101 to 151 dwell .....	26 per cent.
Type VI	In districts with 51 to 100 dwell .....	10 per cent.
Type VII	In districts with 1 to 50 dwell .....	9 per cent.

A map of the printed document in the Appendix shows the location of these types. Eight of the school census districts showing the heaviest congestion

(Types I and II) lie south of the Union Station to the Belt Railroad and between Shelby Street and the White River; two of these districts lie either side of Military Park, and one on either side of Indiana Avenue to the north and west of the capitol; one lies west of the River about School No. 52, and another is to the eastward of East Street, between Massachusetts Avenue and Washington Street—between Schools Nos. 1 and 9.

The districts represented by Types III and IV, while they do not show the average youthful population as dense as in the first types, are for the most part in closely settled districts where the space is nearly taken up with buildings and their lots. Owing to the large size of certain census districts, Types III to VII contain certain small areas with a much greater density than indicated. Examples of this are the districts immediately north of Massachusetts Avenue and between College Avenue and Roosevelt Avenue, about Schools No. 10, 26 and 55, the foreign settlement south of West Washington Street near School No. 5, and several rapidly growing parts of the city immediately north of East Washington Street. It is to be observed that most of the residential part of the city north of Ohio Street and below Fall Creek is in Type III, that wholesale and business districts in the center of the city are in Types IV, V and VI, because comparatively few children and youth have their homes there, and that most of the outlying open districts are naturally in Types V, VI and VII.

Of the school population, 8.5 per cent. is colored (4,708). The number of foreign-born residents has received large additions in recent years. In two neighborhoods south of West Washington Street, and in one to the north, it forms a considerable proportion. Generally speaking, the population in other parts of the city is American-born. These facts must be taken account of in providing for outdoor play and indoor recreation.

## 2. Need of Play Space for Children

Visits to all the school districts of the city have resulted in a tabulated statement of the needs of each district. This study has given a basis for certain general conclusions.

**PRIVATE PLAY SPACE**—In the central or closely settled residential sections of the city the private play space available for the active play of children has practically disappeared. No measured survey is needed to show this fact—close acquaintance with the city makes it evident. Where open ground still remains in these districts, whether in small or large plots, most of it is not usable for play. Subtract small lawns and gardens and clothes yards, where play is not allowed, storage yards, the vacant lots that are ungraded or not to be entered, and the remainder is small indeed. This remainder in most districts is private yard space. Now when it is remembered that

the private yard space, when available, is usually cut up into small individual plots, it means (1) that games requiring space are precluded, and (2) that the plots are usually "private" and can do nothing for most of the children who have no yards. This condition prevails in substantially all of the central districts and other neighborhoods represented by Types I, II, and III.

In other residential districts having more yard space, the same difficulties are encountered. The street being the only place with combined space is preferred, and all but a few vacant lots are ungraded or otherwise not available. In the more open districts, mostly in Types V, VI, and VII, a larger per cent. of the total space is free for play, but the suitably graded lots are few.

**PUBLIC PLAY SPACE NEEDED**—The first need is to make use of suitable space in schoolyards, or small parks owned by the city. In the more crowded districts, where practically all the children are forced to the streets for play, the need is to acquire play space where there is none. In the greater portion of the settled parts of the city where private yards are alone available, and most children prefer the street, the need is to get the use of or acquire space in areas large enough for play. In other large portions of the city where there are lots that are not used because they are not graded, the need is to get the use of, acquire or lease land which can be operated as a playground. Similar needs should be anticipated in the outskirts of the city in the direction of growth.

It is to be noted that 23 per cent. of the youthful population of the city live in the heaviest types of congestion (I and II), 19 per cent. in Type III, 13 per cent. in Type IV, 26 per cent. in Type V, and only 19 per cent. in the outlying sections with more open space are represented by Types VI and VII.

### 3. Need of Larger Spaces for Youth and Adults:

Sizable fields are needed for the active boys that yearn for baseball and the vigorous sports of youth. Play space for small children is sadly lacking in parts of the city, but much less can be said for the available fields for boys and youth and adults. Careful experiments in many cities in the use of playgrounds for small children show that from 75 per cent. to 95 per cent. usually come from one-fourth to one-third of a mile from the playground. This is as it should be, for children's playgrounds are neighborhood adjuncts. In the case of fields, an easy fifteen minutes walk to the ground, or one-half to three-quarters of a mile, is the length of the "attractive radius" for most of the boys and youth. Except on special occasions, the average boys find something else to do, easier and nearer at hand, rather than go great distances to a field.

With this standard in mind, the city has very few open grounds available for the sports of youth. Just a few districts are near Park grounds which

are used by the boys of the neighborhood. In some of the outskirts open fields are available, but where most of the people dwell there are no fields of sufficient size for the sports of youth. It is therefore not surprising that the average youth gets an outlet for his energies in other directions. The evils of loafing and of wasted leisure hours are largely traceable to this deficiency. What applies to boys and youth applies also to the adult uses of fields, impossible in most of the districts where workingmen dwell. From the careful examination of every part of the city and the studies in population it appears that fully 80 per cent. of the people live in districts where there are no available spots for games requiring space.

## II. HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONDITIONS

The play of children and the legitimate and necessary social recreations of youth ought naturally to be associated with the life of a good home and where there is a good type of neighborhood life. But where home life has little hold and the neighborhood life is not an uplifting social force, the need for organized recreation becomes acute. In general, the greatest needs are in the districts showing heavy types of congestion, and particularly where homes with few rooms, and no open spaces, are the rule. But this is not always the case. A study of housing conditions gives a clearer index of social needs. In the absence of information based on any previous study of this kind, an inquiry was instituted with the help of the Parent-Teachers' Association. Information from parents in most of the school districts was supplemented by interviews with the principals of the various grammar schools. The results are shown in Table VII in the appendix, giving conditions as reported in each of the sixty-five school districts.

In twenty-eight of these, home and neighborhood recreation facilities are not meeting the needs, as they are classed as "poor" or "very poor." Twelve districts are classed as "poor to fair," and twenty-four as "good" or "fair." Evidently from one-third to one-half the schools are located where the need for better uses of leisure is unquestioned. A few instances illustrate how social conditions rather than congested conditions are the test of a neighborhood's need.

In a district where the houses are mostly roomy and well-kept, and where open fields are plentiful, a certain "corner" is a general loafing place and has a notoriously bad effect on the way in which spare time of great numbers of boys and young men is spent. Several settlements in the city's outskirts have poor housing conditions and little in home life that is attractive. On the other hand certain central neighborhoods where there is almost no yard space and where the need of play space for children and youth is great, are in some respects the best parts of the city, as far as the adequacy of life within the home is concerned.

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It need hardly be added that the recreation problem of the city is by no means confined to those of school age (over 55,000). A large number of infants under six years get the benefit of parks and playgrounds. When work is over, the leisure of young people and adults must be provided for.

## III. THE NEED OF ORGANIZED PLAY AND RECREATION

**OBSERVATION OF CHILDREN OUTDOORS**—Owing to the time of year (mid-winter) it has been impossible to make a normal observation of the outdoor occupations of Indianapolis children. But this is not necessary in order to verify certain uniform conclusions reached in every similar survey that has been made. In the parts of the city where organized playgrounds are not operated in the summer, the great majority of children seen are on the streets, and a very small percentage in private yards and vacant lots. The street is the inevitable play space for the child without a yard, and is a Mecca for all children (yards or no). The other children are there and there's "something doing." Street play is inevitable in districts without yards or where yard space is cut up into small plots, or where the rule is "Keep off the grass." Even in districts provided with grounds the children will be in the streets as long as the streets are the most attractive spots. In this state of affairs lies the need not only for "play space," but the equally essential need for the well organized, attractive playground.

Observations as to what children do—when seen out of doors—in ordinary city conditions, discloses a great need. A large proportion (it usually varies from 40 per cent. to 60 per cent.) are not playing, but idle. A small number, much greater in some districts than others, are working; and the remainder are playing. In the survey recently made in Detroit, playing was interpreted liberally to cover all sorts of play, not merely games, and but 38.3 per cent. of the 3,051 children observed were playing. An average of 54.7 per cent. were doing nothing, and 7 per cent were working. The play seen, when analyzed, is often disorganized fooling. Under the hard conditions in some districts, wholesome play is difficult. Many people thoughtlessly declare that children play naturally. The truth of the matter is that they have the "instinct to play," the desire for self-expression. The form it takes—a game, or some social play, or sport, or work—all depends upon the opportunity and knowing how.

**EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE**—Where children are in idleness or misusing the precious playtime, influences are at work which are counteracting the effects of school training. Right use of play constitutes an educational opportunity. After school, freed from the more or less artificial restraints of the school room, the boy or girl has not only the necessary chance for more fresh air and exercise, but the golden opportunity to exert individual

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initiative. He is in a sense the arbiter of his own fortunes and in his real world of conduct. In well-conceived play and games, and the industrial occupation in which he delights, is the chance for self-development. Through the social games and team play come the valuable lessons in co-operation which are the veritable beginnings of civic life. Very rarely there exists in a neighborhood a well developed play tradition, opportunity for play and work, and a natural and more or less consistent leadership in wholesome activities handed down from group to group or through families. In the city this is seldom the case—in the congested districts almost never, except where well-organized activities have been purposely established. Time and energy and money must be devoted to this part of the educational process to perfect the product and keep it from being mutilated.

**JUVENILE DELINQUENCY**—The records of the Juvenile Court show that there were 461 cases brought before the court from April 1, 1912, to March 31, 1913. Fully as many more complaints against offenders were handled outside without becoming recorded cases. That much of delinquency is but a misuse of leisure or due to the absence of normal and natural occupations in certain districts is evident from an interesting map prepared by the court in connection with this survey. It shows the districts from which juvenile offenders come, and gives a fairly accurate idea of the parts of the city that are most in need of good recreation facilities. Wards 1, 5, 11, 12 and 10 (in that order) show the greatest number of cases. A study of the map shows the exact districts in these and other wards.

The cost of the Juvenile Court last year was \$12,658.65. Indianapolis' share in support of delinquents in the two State industrial schools brings the total to \$21,246.65, and this takes no account of the cost of caring for delinquents by other agencies. While it may not be feasible to reduce this expenditure, it is surely good policy to have an adequate recreation system that can prevent many of the conditions through which such cases arise. Probation officers are among the best advocates of organized recreation, because of their first hand knowledge of the causes of delinquency. In two districts of the city the court records show a much smaller number of cases than formerly, a condition ascribed to the presence of a settlement, a boy's club and playgrounds. The presence of recreation centers in the South Side of Chicago, according to a study by Allen T. Burns, was coincident with a 28.5 per cent. decrease of delinquency within half a mile of the centers.

Table III in the appendix of this report shows the classification of offenses and the months in which they were committed.

### IV. COMMERCIAL RECREATION

In planning for an adequate recreation system for a city it is necessary to know the kinds of amusements and recreations already being provided and the

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numbers being reached. The possible facilities that can be utilized must also be ascertained. A recreation system consists of home and neighborhood life, the commercial amusements, the recreative opportunities provided by private effort, and those furnished by the city. The first element of the recreation system—home and neighborhood life—has been touched upon. It remains to discuss the present conditions in the other three, beginning with commercial recreation.

The extent of commercial recreations is discussed here. The discussion of their recreative value and the maintenance of standards is in the Appendix of the report.

## 1. Exhibition Amusements

The total number of amusement houses in Indianapolis is 93. These can be classified as follows: 3 legitimate theaters (drama, opera, etc.); 5 vaudeville houses (including two where motion pictures are a large factor); 2 burlesque theatres; 70 motion picture houses, and 13 air domes. All of the theatres, vaudeville and burlesque houses are located in the center of the city; 22 of the motion picture shows are within the mile square, and 48 are in other parts of the city and have more of a neighborhood character. Practically all the air domes are outside the mile square. A complete list of the commercial exhibition amusements, with location and type of house is in Table II in the Appendix. The modern rapid development of the motion picture business, combined with theatrical performances, presents the largest single factor in the consideration of how the people are spending their leisure.

While it is impossible to give exact figures of attendance at these amusements, a conservative estimate well within the actual figures can be given. Visits to most of the theatres, interviews with men engaged in the local business as to conditions in these and other houses, detailed reports of visits from more than half the motion picture shows, and knowledge of similar conditions elsewhere form the basis of the estimate of attendance in the winter season. Table I in the Appendix gives the capacity and estimated attendance.

It will be seen that there is a total seating capacity of 40,814, with an average weekly attendance of 420, 507. Great care has been exercised to insure figures within the facts. Motion picture houses run continuously, and the daily attendance is represented by a figure several times the capacity of the house. The average capacity of the motion picture houses visited was 378. Some of the most successful down-town houses show daily admissions running from three to several times capacity. Most houses are nearer the lower figure. This report will err on the side of a conservative estimate. Reports from local managers and observations here make the method used in similar reports in Milwaukee, Kansas City, and Detroit a safe basis of figuring. For the down-town houses the seating capacity has been multiplied by 20 (a

figure lower than the average of Kansas City), to get the average weekly attendance. (It is to be remembered that houses here are open seven days a week, with larger attendance Saturday and Sunday). The capacity of the neighborhood houses had been multiplied by 8.5, the average times per week for the same type of house in Milwaukee. The vaudeville and burlesque houses together run an equivalent of at least 60 performances a week, making allowance for the fact that two of the houses are on the continuous performance basis. Multiplying their capacity by *eight* would be within the figures.

The variety in number and success of performances at legitimate drama and opera, makes five times the seating capacity a conservative figure.

## 2. Pool and Billiard Rooms

With the exception of the theatres and motion pictures, the pool rooms of the city represent the largest single factor in attracting men in their leisure time. Last year (1913) 471 licenses were issued. The number in force at the present time is considerably less than this, and there have been a number of changes in proprietors. In several cases where pool rooms were being used merely as blinds for gambling, law enforcement has made it unprofitable to continue business. About thirty per cent. of the rooms are located in the center of the city within the mile square.

It is impossible to tell the exact attendance at pool rooms, because of its constantly changing character. A large number have been visited, and close estimates have been made. On the weekly basis, careful estimates place attendance in winter at 190,000, being reduced very largely in summer time till it is probably not much more than twenty per cent. of that figure. The pool room is not merely a place for playing pool and billiards—it is a social gathering place, and the on-lookers are as numerous as those who actually play. Practically all of the rooms have a rather fixed group that frequent them. While in many instances the class of patrons is of the best, in general this is not the case, and not a few rooms are gathering places for some of the worst elements of the city. While most all have some drop-in trade, about twenty per cent. appear to be exclusively dependent upon their regular patrons.

Inside the mile-square practically one-third of the places where pool tables are located are in saloons. Two-thirds are straight commercial pool rooms, for pool and billiards, and among these are several respectable enterprises. In the out-lying sections of the city where the rooms are located in neighborhoods, almost two-thirds are in connection with saloons. The other one-third are mostly small pool rooms offering this type of amusement to the men of a rather distinct neighborhood. Not a few of this latter class are in connection with cigar stores.

In 1913 the total number of tables in commercial pool rooms and saloons was 925. Of these, 425 were in the center of the city, and it is fair to infer

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that slightly more than 45 per cent. of the entire attendance at pool rooms is in that section. Most of the large, well-appointed places, where men seek this form of amusement under the best conditions that exist, are in this part of the city. Tables in outlying sections numbered as follows: Northeast, 136; Northwest, 157; Southeast, 142; Southwest, 65.

### 3. Bowling

Most of the bowling in Indianapolis, which is inconsiderable compared with many cities of the size, takes place on alleys in clubs and associations. In most of them the alleys are public, in the sense that anyone who pays for his game can play. Strictly commercial alleys, unassociated with other enterprises, are located at but two small establishments. Six alleys at the Y. M. C. A., 20 at private athletic and social clubs (Marion Club, Democratic, Turvereins, etc.) 4 in connection with churches, and 4 at other locations. No attempt has been made to make careful count of those participating. Evidently the total attendance is not large compared with other amusements. The conditions under which bowling takes place have been much improved, largely because institutions have taken it up. Most all who bowl are devotees of the game itself. Alleys usually have about the same patronage during the season.

### 4. Public Dances

The numbers attending "public dances" can be judged by the fact that there were 411 licensed dances in the first eight weeks of this year. Fully half of these were public in the sense that the public generally might gain admission on the payment of a fee. This would indicate an attendance of at least 4,000 weekly, not counting the large number of private dances—at which invitations are restricted. The great majority of halls are let to parties managing dances. At three halls the management operates dances regularly each evening, and several others are run two and three times a week. A number of clubs make a practice of running public dances for profit in hired halls—weekly or more frequently.

The importance of dancing as a form of public amusement is such that the subject is given separate discussion in the Appendix.

## V. RECREATION PROVIDED BY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS

ASSOCIATIONS, SETTLEMENTS, CHURCHES—The physical, social and intellectual pursuits organized and furthered by philanthropic and co-operative organizations constitute a most important factor in providing for the leisure of young and old. The total weekly attendance at institutions

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that have well equipped buildings, is estimated at 26,345. This does not include purely social, musical, athletic or political clubs. Large buildings equipped for recreation purposes, centrally located, are the two Y. M. C. A.'s, the Y. W. C. A. Three Turnvereins, and two social and athletic clubs have well equipped buildings for active indoor recreations and social uses.

General neighborhood, philanthropic enterprises with buildings used for recreation purposes (some large, some small) are in six locations; Christ-amore Settlement, Lauter Memorial and Butler Memorial (Boys' Clubs), the Foreigners' House of the Immigrants Aid Association, and the Harley Gibbs Settlement. The Jewish House is a combined city and neighborhood house supported by Jewish people. There are two churches with vestries or parts of church buildings devoted more or less regularly to organized sports and other recreations under paid leadership. Four mission houses connected with religious bodies, furnish social and other recreation as part of their work. Five churches have rooms used by clubs for sports more or less regularly each week under volunteer leaders, and a number of others have some one activity in the form of clubs for boys or girls meeting weekly.

Certain other organizations, such as the Woman's Department Club and the Boys' Club have furnished leadership for the use of public libraries and in parts of school buildings for neighborhood recreation. The eight Young Men's Institutes are among the clubs with rooms for their own and affiliated with churches.

Table VII shows the extent of the equipment and the weekly attendance at most of the buildings named above.

CO-OPERATIVE CLUBS, ETC.—No attempt has been made to estimate the influence of the recreative features furnished to members and friends at social, musical and athletic clubs of the city, that have well-equipped plants. These are naturally restricted as to membership by the payment of fees and other considerations.

The city has favoring circumstances in the impetus given to physical training through the Turnvereins and especially by the presence of the Training School of the North American Gymnastic Union, in the building of the German House.

The athletic organizations maintained by boys and young men for participation in baseball and other outdoor sports indicate the amount of athletic interest in the city seeking facilities for play. At this early date an employee of one of the leading sporting firms has listed the names of 86 baseball teams. These are figured at less than one-half the eventual total, as many boys and youths teams do not organize till the baseball fever comes. The great majority have no home grounds or courts and are mostly dependent on use of out-lying parks. Among the teams mentioned 38 are in regularly organized leagues. The thirty basket-ball teams listed do not begin to exhaust the list.

# PART TWO

## Public Facilities

### I. USES OF PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND PUBLIC BATHING IN 1913

#### 1. The Uses of Park Property

It is of course impossible to estimate the use of the squares and breathing spaces of the city or many of the voluntary uses of the scenic parks, but where the parks of the city are equipped for sports and have been subject to permit, estimates can be made that indicate the amount and variety of present uses.

Riverside Park has seven baseball diamonds, and these and other spaces are available for football and other field sports. Two 18-hole and one 9-hole golf course offer good opportunity for this popular pastime. The Park has nine tennis courts, and canoeing is another of its active recreations. Garfield Park has three diamonds and four tennis courts. At Brookside Park are two diamonds, space for one football field, and six tennis courts. There are three courts at Spades Place. Ellenberger's Woods has two tennis courts and a six-hole golf course. Children's play spaces—in some cases with apparatus and matron in charge—are provided at Garfield Park, Military Park, Spades Place, Highland Square, Indianola Square, and McCarty Place.

It is estimated that 30,000 boys and men played in regular baseball games on park grounds in 1913. There were 35 organized football games. No estimate is made of practice games, and no figures are available for tennis, golf and canoeing, all of which are popular.

**THE PRESENT PARK SYSTEM**—Table IV gives the area of park lands owned by the City of Indianapolis, and indicates the way in which the spaces are used for active sports.

#### 2. Activities of the Recreation Department of the Board of Health

Last summer the supervised playgrounds and baths operated by this department included six bathing establishments and eight playgrounds.

**BATHS**—Between June 28th and August 31st the baths had a total attendance of 124,581; river baths with tents on the shore were located at 16th Street and Fall Creek, 10th Street and the River (colored), Capitol

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Avenue and 24th Street, Hanson Avenue and the river, and at Norwood (colored). The most popular bath in the city was the large out-door pool on Delaware Street on the former site of the gas works. At all of these points life-guards and attendants were stationed, and at several of them special hours were reserved for girls and women.

**PLAYGROUNDS**—Playgrounds were operated next to the Lauter Memorial Building on Greeley Street, in West Indianapolis, on South Meridian Street, opposite the Boys' Club Building, on English Avenue, not far from School No. 39, on the Court House grounds, on the grounds of the Christamore Settlement, at Brighton Beach (colored), in Norwood, and in Brightwood on the grounds of the water works opposite School No. 51. A director and lady assistant were on each of these grounds from July 14th to August 31st. At five of the grounds adjacent buildings were used, and on three portable toilets were erected and water connections put in. Four of the playgrounds were open from 9 A. M. to 6 P. M. On four grounds arc lights were placed so that they could be open in the evening. The total attendance for the summer was 71,661.

The summer activities closed with a play festival at Garfield Park on August 27th. The use of the club house at Brightwood has continued through Fall and Winter, afternoons and evenings, under directors. It has provided a place for boys' clubs, women's clubs, and gymnasium classes, shower baths, etc. One of the city kindergartens makes use of it. Directors of the department are working in co-operation with the Boys' Club in conducting gymnasium at Butler Memorial and Lauter Memorial Buildings. At two locations—on Harding Street in West Indianapolis and Ringgold Street on the South Side—this department has secured grounds for playground purposes.

**THE IMPORTANCE OF BATHING FACILITIES**—Thus far public baths have been carried on in only temporary locations, but a large number of people have taken advantage of them. The importance of good bathing places in a city can hardly be overestimated. They are a sanitary provision and at the same time furnish a splendid type of recreation. From the standpoint of cleanliness, public baths are indispensable. From the standpoint of an exercise, swimming is incomparable. Many cities have been generous in their provision for public out-door beaches, swimming pools and floating baths, and in-door baths and natatoriums. Some have gone so far as to require a knowledge of swimming before a High School diploma is granted. The policy of the department in establishing inexpensive headquarters at several points on the banks of the streams and seeing that the latter are patrolled, has proved a measure of safety. The next step should be for the city to establish a public bathing and swimming establishment which can be

permanent, well-constructed according to the most modern standards, and a model for similar developments at other points. Much of the indoor bathing can be inexpensively provided in parts of school buildings, in field houses, and in neighborhood houses used for recreation.

**CO-OPERATION WITH PRIVATE AGENCIES**—The principle of providing trained leadership in connection with boys' clubs, settlements, and other agencies furnishing recreations to the people, is a valuable one. It means that these opportunities can reach a much larger number of children and young people than if confined to public property.

**A LARGER MAINTENANCE FUND**—The law passed last year provides for the supervision of public playgrounds and other organized recreations by the Board of Health, and sets aside a portion of the tax levy for this purpose, equal to from one to two cents on every one hundred dollars of taxable property. This means that there is available a considerable maintenance fund for recreation purposes. The expenditures last year were \$11,133.21. The amount available this year is about four times that sum.

## II. POSSIBLE USES OF PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS

### 1. Best Uses for Different Types of Property

In considering the uses of public property for recreation and the possible additions, it is necessary to have in mind the various kinds of parks, playgrounds and baths, and the provisions for indoor recreations which may exist in a city.

**PRESENT TYPES OF PARK PROPERTY**—The connecting boulevard system as the basis of the plan of park development for the city has a fundamental economic and esthetic value that should be well understood. In the course of its development it will provide most parts of the city with sites for different kinds of recreation grounds. The other types of park property within the city limits are, first, the squares or breathing spaces, not intended for active recreation (except in some cases for the play of small children), such as University Park or Military Park; second, the larger scenic and picnic parks (such as Garfield Park and Riverside Park), and third, park grounds for active sports, subject to permit or other arrangements, as at the two larger parks mentioned and at Brookside Park.

**THE "PLAY PARK" or "RECREATION CENTER"**—A fourth type of park, the neighborhood play park and recreation center, with provision for active sports for all ages the year-round, equipped with a field house, on a large field, and with smaller play spaces organized under trained leadership—does not yet exist in Indianapolis, though such a plan has been proposed for Willard Park and suggested in other localities. An organized recreation

center of this kind, located near to a thickly populated district has an extensive use by large numbers in a district, and is a playground and recreation development to be distinguished on the one hand from the more distant parks, and on the other from the close in-town breathing spaces laid out with formal walks, but with little or no provision for active games and sports.

**CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUNDS**—In providing organized play spaces in settled districts, distinctions should be made among the various uses to which such grounds can best be put. First, children's playgrounds and larger "play fields" should be carefully distinguished. The former, whether separate or as part of a larger district field, are a neighborhood proposition, and should be confined to the use of the smaller children of not more than eleven to twelve years of age. The little ones ought not to go far from home, usually not more than a fourth to a third of a mile. Below the age of eleven, boys and girls can use the same kind of apparatus and can play many of the same games. The older active boys need larger spaces, and they do not mix well with the smaller children. For this reason the children's playground should consist of an entirely separate space, either a ground by itself or a part of a larger ground separated from the "play field" by some distinct line of division.

**BOYS' AND GIRLS' PLAYGROUNDS**—A second type of playground is that for the active boys from ten or eleven to fifteen or sixteen. These "boys' playgrounds" do not need to be of the size of a regulation field, but they do need to be large enough for active games like baseball and football, and for athletic contests, even if the diamonds have to be smaller and the distances shorter than on a regulation athletic field. Boys of this age can cover a pretty good distance and will be attracted to a well-equipped ground ten or fifteen minutes walk from home or school as long as there is "something doing." "Boys' playgrounds" can be on a space of their own as a separate ground, or as a part of some of the larger fields.

Playgrounds for girls from twelve up, and including young women, have become an important factor in recreation systems. Custom or the total lack of proper facilities has too often denied to girls the exercise and play which are their natural right. Spaces for girls can, in some instances, be provided in connection with children's playgrounds, or on some of the more park-like areas of a city, where tennis, playground ball, basket ball, field hockey, and other outdoor exercise can be provided for girls and young women without the difficulties of administration which would be present in connection with a field used by large numbers of boys and men.

**PLAY FIELDS**—The athletic fields used by older boys and men for regulation baseball, football, athletics and other sports, are the fourth type of ground. It is this type, the "play field," that is most conspicuously lacking in Indianapolis.

**BATHING**—In the development of parks, play fields and playgrounds

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the possibility of certain other types of recreation needs to be kept in mind. Important among these are outdoor bathing pools, river-baths, indoor swimming pools, and indoor baths of different types.

**INDOOR RECREATION**—Wherever a suitable public building is in a district where indoor recreations are needed to foster neighborhood and supplement home life, it is a possible recreation asset, and in the erection of needed structures in connection with outdoor sports their possible indoor uses should be considered. The year-round "recreation center" consists of a field house, not merely as an adjunct to a playfield, but with gymnasium, assembly hall, and smaller rooms for indoor uses.

**ORGANIZED METHODS**—At least three important points should be kept in mind in providing centers of recreation. (1) They should be developed according to the best esthetic standards, furnishing recreation in surroundings that are as far as possible, beautiful. (2) Experience in many cities has taught that four-fifths of the patronage of fields and recreation centers comes from within a half or three-quarters of a mile. For small children the corresponding distance is smaller still. Playfields and recreation centers must be established in or near the settled districts. (3) Organized methods under trained leadership are absolutely necessary to make grounds consistently useful. This applies alike to playgrounds, playfields, and recreation centers, and to the varied recreative uses of parks.

### 2. Location of Playfields and Recreation Centers

**ALONG PARKWAYS**—The plans of the Park Department for a system of connecting parkways along the banks of the White River and three of its tributaries (Fall Creek, Pogue's Run, and Pleasant Run), means—parkways, and in some cases larger park spaces, within at least a mile and a half of every part of the city. The civic benefits of this basic development are large, indeed. To furnish facilities for active recreation, particularly fields of sufficient size near to the domicile of the people is another important function. In the eventual development of the parkways along the streams there are several points where such fields can be located. Among these are the proposed Merritt Playground on White River, and one or two points further down the stream, and four points along Fall Creek where the development is to be widened sufficiently. On Pogue's Run, Brookside Park can be developed into a splendid organized recreation center with room for several fields and playgrounds. A similar plan should be devised where the stream passes through the Technical Institute grounds. The same principle can be applied to the acquisition of property along Pleasant Run.

**OTHER CENTERS NEARER TO MORE POPULOUS DISTRICTS**—But playfields or recreation centers located along these streams

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cannot adequately reach some of the large centers of population between them, where the first needs lie. Pogue's Run is on the average two and a half miles from Fall Creek or Pleasant Run. At most a three-quarter mile radius covers the real sphere of influence of a field or recreation center. Consequently other property, right in the populous districts needing recreation needs to be acquired and developed.

Playfields are much needed on the South Side in wards 12, 11, and 10, and in the region south of them that is too far from Garfield Park. More specifically these districts are (1) the South Meridian Street neighborhood below the Manual Training High School, and the neighborhood nearer the river about School No. 12, (2) the southeast neighborhood between Willard Park and Garfield Park, (3) the eastern part of the South Side which would be well-served by the operation of a recreation center at Willard Park. Other needs are (4) in the northeast part of the city in Ward 1, near School No. 55, (5) in the northwest part of the city traversed by Indiana Avenue, (6) north of Washington Street near School No. 52, and in West Indianapolis (southwest part of the city) between the river and School No. 49. This outlines the needs that are most pressing.

In these districts the Park Department already has available undeveloped property, viz. at Willard Park, at the Merritt Playground and north of School No. 49. It is planning to acquire property on the South Side. By applying a three-quarter mile radius from the possible location for fields, along the streams and from centers placed in the districts named, it will be seen that there will still be large portions of the city without accessible means for active recreation. Such districts should eventually be provided for by the purchase of fields, or by the enlargement of school yards. Children's playgrounds for an immediate neighborhood might be part of a fully developed recreation center, but these serve so small a territory, and are so naturally and economically connected with school administration that they should be furnished for the most part in school yards.

**PLAYFIELD EQUIPMENT**—A typical playfield for youth and adults has a field large enough for baseball, football, hockey, track athletics, tennis, and other sports suitable to open fields, with a possibility of skating in winter. It has bathing facilities, and a swimming pool, if possible. Separate spaces should be provided for the sports and games of girls and women, and there may be separate children's playgrounds. Good surfacing, shade, and a landscape plan satisfying to the eye are essentials. In the field house are the office of the director, baths and lockers, drinking water, toilet facilities, etc. A fully developed field of the "recreation center" type, has an indoor gymnasium, club rooms, social rooms, and sometimes opportunities for work as well as play.

**NEED OF A TYPICAL RECREATION CENTER**—Obviously the best plan for Indianapolis is to develop one center well—a center which can be typical for similar later developments. This can well be done at Willard Park, a well-located tract of suitable size. Evidently with this policy in mind the Park Department has considered such a plan for this park. Of the other proposed locations that in the central South Side is more central to needy districts. In this or other locations there is the possibility of co-operating with school authorities, or with private organizations in the use of adjacent buildings to serve as field houses.

### **3. Organized Methods Applied to the Larger Parks**

The Park Department has made a good beginning in stimulating the use of its scenic parks and the spaces where active recreation is available. Baseball leagues have been formed, other sports have been organized, and golf and canoeing and children's park play spaces put in charge of instructors or attendants. Leadership and organized methods applied to the "popular sports" and a variety of other activities possible in parks, but less well-known, will mean a still larger use. The group and social uses of the parks by clubs and organizations, families and individuals from every part of the city will be much increased when by such means they become acquainted with the possible benefits the parks can be to them.

### **4. Policy as to Use of Other Park Spaces**

Most of the small green spots and breathing spaces are not adapted for a large, active, recreation use. At best these can be used only for the play of small children. This is true of such spaces as University, St. Clair, Highland, Morris, and Indianola Squares, McCarty Place, Noble Place, etc. Two or three of these have increased use because adjacent to schools and libraries. The larger scenic parks, such as Riverside and Garfield, can constantly increase in the kind of recreative uses to which they are put. This is also true of points along Fall Creek, Brookside Park, and Ellenberger's Woods. The great variety of sports and volunteer recreations now possible in these parks will greatly profit by organized methods reaching to the people, acquainting them with facilities, and making it natural and easy to make use of them.

In providing district playfields, rapid development is needed in a few cases with pressing needs and gradual development at other points. The former are Willard Park, a new South Side field, the Technical grounds, Merrit Playground, fields in Ward 1, and a field for colored youth to the north of Wards 5 and 6. The latter applies to the available fields along the parkways and others to be acquired between.

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At each of the grounds that can become playfields the policy should be to provide first the ball-fields, athletic grounds, tennis courts, and other facilities that can be used with little supervision. In the well-settled neighborhoods (as at Willard Park, for example) a field house and organized leadership should also be provided as soon as possible. The amount of supervision and the facilities should increase with the growth of the neighborhoods affected. Field houses (with baths, lockers and toilets) should be planned for to increase the use and efficiency of grounds. In a thickly settled neighborhood without good indoor recreations the advisability of a more fully equipped plant with a variety of indoor uses should be considered.

In acquiring property for recreation purposes there should always be kept in mind the possibility of enlarging school yards in the districts where fields will be needed. Certain of the residential districts where open fields have disappeared or are fast disappearing, are cases in point. The parks are too remote. The obvious need is to forestall the future by having at least one very large school yard (more than two acres). Where this cannot be done a separate field is a necessity.

## III. SCHOOL PROPERTY

### 1. Schoolyards

**SIZE OF SCHOOLYARDS**—The sixty-five grammar schools of the city have been visited in order to determine the size and present and possible uses of the school yards. Table V in the Appendix shows the size of each and the number of square feet per capita with the children enrolled in each school.

The two large high schools have no play space. Seven of the grade schools have less than thirty feet per child. This amount of space is the absolute minimum established by the London school board. It is too low to apply to most American cities. Ground used constantly for play purposes accommodates about three hundred children per acre. Such use does not permit large space games, but confines active play to basketball, indoor baseball, group games, etc. Making due allowance for the fact that much of the time the ground will be used by only a portion of the children, 50 to 75 square feet per child seems a reasonable minimum. One-half of the schools of Indianapolis have less than 50 feet per child. It must be kept in mind that the population is growing, the schools are being crowded, and that the need for sizable yards will be greater as time goes on.

**SCHOOLYARDS NATURAL CHILDREN'S GROUNDS**—Schoolyards must not only be adequate for the recess play of the school children,

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but they are the natural children's playgrounds for most neighborhoods, after school during term time, and in summer when school is not in session, and the school building, with its drinking water, toilets, and other conveniences, is an essential adjunct to both these uses. The play of children has been increasingly recognized as a part of their education. This, and the fact that the natural play time during most of the year is immediately after school, makes the schoolyard the logical and economical play space. In Indianapolis the yards are kept open for play until 4 P. M. in Spring and Fall, as well as for usual recess play. In many other cities they are open regularly in summer and for a longer period afternoons and on Saturdays in term time.

The ordinary schoolyard is of such small size that it can be used only as a playground for small children, mostly below eleven or twelve years of age. Active boys of older age, and youth and adults, should be accommodated at some larger playfield, unless the yard is exceptionally large.

**SUPERVISION**—There is need of supervision on playgrounds, not only for the purpose of controlling the grounds and giving an equal opportunity to all, but because the activities of children and youth need to be in the hands of people who understand them and their needs. Play leadership is becoming as much of a profession as other branches of teaching. Through the department of physical training in the schools in co-operation with the recreation department of the city, it ought to be possible to introduce the kind of system which has been so successful in many other cities. It will prove of great benefit to the children in the neighborhoods in which they reside and add to the efficiency of the plan of education.

**EQUIPMENT OF SCHOOLYARDS**—Practically every school in the city has play apparatus in its schoolyard. In all cases this has been provided by the children, their parents and the teachers. The typical equipment consists of swing frames, giant strides (or Maypoles) and travelling ladders. Some have horizontal bars, basketball standards, see-saws, tether poles, sand boxes, etc. A few only have little or no equipment. In nearly every case there are a number of basketballs or footballs and frequently other play material. In these respects the majority of the schools are fairly well provided. But the fact that apparatus and materials for play have been provided by the districts themselves has operated to the disadvantage of some of the schools in needy sections. Some of these that need equipment most have the least of it. For this reason each of the yards ought to be brought up to a standard equipment by the city.

There are certain features that are fundamental essentials to a good playground. The ground should be well surfaced, and easily drained and dustless. There ought to be shade, and if possible seats for parents and others. For a ground to be well managed a fence is necessary. The use of rooms in

the school building, as well as the toilets, drinking water, etc., adds to the efficiency of a play center.

**GREATEST NEEDS**—In general such playgrounds for small children will be of use mostly to children within a quarter or a third of a mile from the school building. There are approximately 30 of the yards that are so situated that the need is pressing. A list of these has been furnished to school and recreation authorities. Every schoolyard in a settled district will be increasingly needed as a playground.

## 2. School Buildings

**INDOOR EQUIPMENT**—Table VI in the Appendix shows the schools of the city that have indoor equipment such as auditoriums or gymnasiums, large corridors, extra rooms, and other facilities which can be used for recreation purposes outside of school hours. About one-half (32 buildings) have good or fair rooms for general meetings. Three are adjacent to libraries. In most districts needing organized neighborhood recreations, the school building has equipment that can meet part of the need if properly supervised.

Almost without exception the schools have pianos, and most of them have more than one. Several have piano players or phonographs. All the schools in which there are sixth, seventh and eighth grades, have wands, dumb bells and clubs for classes of fifty or more. Twenty schools have manual training benches, accommodating twenty to twenty-five pupils, and nineteen have similar equipment for cooking. A few have sewing rooms, and several have arrangements for other forms of industrial work such as printing. Most buildings have been erected without special features for physical exercise.

**PRESENT USES**—Thirty-eight of the schools have parent-teacher associations. In many buildings meetings of parents or entertainments are held more or less frequently. In five school districts teachers and others have given a large amount of time to the supervision of valuable recreative activities for the children and young people of the community. In one instance a large amount of this activity is of an industrial character, but at the same time a well organized boys' club and other organizations have grown out of the enterprise. In another case teachers have given time to the supervision of basket ball in one of the assembly halls, and an active parent-teachers' association has conducted a series of entertainments more frequently than is the case in most schools. At another school the principal has secured the assistance of outside organizations in the support of classes in manual training and domestic science. These cases are mentioned to illustrate the fact that work of this kind seems to be limited largely by the amount of volunteer service that principals and teachers can give to it. At present the principal is naturally held responsible for everything that goes on in the building. Additional activities

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mean more time and energy on the part of principals and teachers, outside of the regular school hours.

**EXTENDED USES POSSIBLE**—In the course of recreation survey of the city there has been encountered a general desire for the use of school buildings for recreation purposes. This is quite natural when 139 other communities are already using their school buildings in this way. They are proving to be the means of meeting just the kind of needs shown in the survey. It is an inspiring sight to see large numbers of young people and adults in profitable pursuits and amusements in buildings of this kind. A community spirit is engendered by the feeling of proprietorship which the people have in the use of a public building.

A gymnasium or an assembly hall can be used for physical training, athletics, and games. A game room or reading room, and possibly a department of the public library can be located in other parts of the building. Some rooms can be used for clubs of various kinds (social, musical, literary, debating, etc.). Under the right leadership industrial activities can be included, such as sewing, cooking, and millinery for girls, manual training, photography, etc., for boys. The assembly room is used for lectures and entertainments, and for various social activities. School buildings are sometimes used for a supervised evening study hour, for children who have no suitable place at home.

**SUPERVISION**—Here, as in the case of playgrounds, the secret of success is good leadership. The best plan is to have a trained organizer who can act either as assistant to the principal of the school, or at least in thorough co-operation with school policy. It is much better to have two or three such centers started in the right neighborhoods as a typical demonstration of the good use of these buildings which otherwise are unused assets in the late afternoon and evening. The obvious places for such well-developed centers are in the schools in needy districts where some few activities have already been started. It is a mistake to have all the buildings opened to recreative uses unless strong leadership is guaranteed. A trained supervisor of the social and recreative uses of school buildings can inaugurate intensive work in a few centers under trained assistants. These leaders will furnish types of work which can later be duplicated in other places. At the same time such a supervisor can be of great assistance in planning and co-operating with Parent-Teachers' Associations in the occasional uses of other buildings. In the course of the survey the school districts with the greatest needs have been studied and the results made available for school authorities and the Federation of Parent-Teachers' Associations.

### 3. Suggestions for Development of Recreative Uses of the School Plant

A policy which would improve the facilities in school yards and school buildings with the double purpose of making more efficient the present school activities and making the school plant available for neighborhood uses, will take into account the following considerations:

(a) School yards should be enlarged in many cases so that they will provide at least for a per capita space of 50 to 75 square feet. Where other fields are far from the district, the enlargement of the school yard into a playfield is by far the best solution of this phase of the recreation problem of the district. School No. 55 is a good example of such a location.

(b) Should the Technical Institute grounds come into possession of the school authorities, suggestions already in mind should be followed; a stadium for high school athletic fields and a neighborhood recreation field for that part of the city. This is a splendid location for the first typical girls' and women's recreation fields. The grounds are so large that many acres can be kept in their natural state of beauty. As Pogue's Run passes through a portion of the grounds, a co-operative plan will doubtless be worked out with the Park Department so that the recreation features can be developed in accordance with a scheme that is consistent with the extension of the boulevards.

(c) The schoolyards have a good start in the matter of play apparatus, yet certain schools are still poorly equipped. Every yard should be well surfaced, and most every yard should be fenced.

(d) The use of school buildings for evening recreation centers should be demonstrated and put on a firm basis by opening a few buildings under trained leadership.

(e) New buildings that are to be erected should be planned with the idea of recreation in mind, both for uses in school hours and the so-called extended use of the building. This can usually be done without much additional expense. Auditoriums can be planned so that they can be used as gymnasiums, if it is not possible to have a separate room for that purpose. Rooms with movable seats will be available both day and night, and can have a larger variety of uses than the ordinary schoolroom with fixed desks. A corridor should always be large enough for physical exercise. The industrial plant (manual training) is always a double asset. Baths are needed in several districts where it is economy to provide them in school buildings.

(f) Indianapolis has a good start in the policy of intra-school athletics as opposed to an over-development of highly competitive forms of sport. Yet there is much room for stimulating athletics in the grade schools,—sports of a kind that do not require severe training. With a well-directed system of

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school playgrounds and convenient high school fields, emphasis can be placed upon still more of the wholesome games and sports in which every one can take part. This will mean much in bringing up children with healthy bodies, hygienic habits, and a normal outlook upon life.

## IV. PUBLIC LIBRARIES

In three ways the public library and its branches give an important contribution to the recreational life of the city: through the supply of good reading matter, through lectures and story-telling hours, and by giving the use of auditoriums for club meetings, social gatherings, gymnastics, choruses, entertainments, etc.

Five of the Branch Libraries are in well-equipped buildings near to schools (three immediately adjacent) and offer good opportunities for co-operation with the school plant and with organizations interested in the welfare of the community. All these have halls well adapted for recreational uses.

These uses are indicated in Table IX in the Appendix. The library buildings have shown large possibilities in the way of more club uses, lectures, social gatherings, etc., where good leadership has been available. The beginnings already made are largely due to work done by the Woman's Department Club, with the co-operation of teachers and local organizations and of the Boys' Club. This work of the Woman's Department Club has been highly commendable.

## V. STREETS

Many of the streets in settled parts of the city are inevitably the only play space for children for some time to come. To secure other adequate play space at once in all such portions of the city would mean prohibitive expense.

Several cities have met a similar situation by reserving certain of the streets where there is light traffic so that children can play there in safety at specified hours. The recreation departments of such cities, or people interested in these special districts, have seen that proper supervision has been provided at such time in order to insure safety and to stimulate the children in the best use of the streets. Frequently parents have taken great interest in this phase of the matter.

## VI. PRESENT SUPERVISION OF RECREATION IN INDIANAPOLIS

**DIVIDED CHARACTER**—Three of the departments of the city government give more or less supervision to recreation facilities, at present. The Recreation Department of the Board of Health has had its directors and as-

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sistants in charge of eight playgrounds and six bathing places in summer, and has a few indoor activities the year round. The Park Department gives a limited amount of supervision through the issuance of permits for the use of ball fields, the operation of golf links and tennis courts, and such time as its officials can give to organizing leagues among the teams using the fields. In the schools a successful system of intra-school athletics has the assistance of some of the teachers of the high schools, in such time as they can give to it after school hours. School yards of the grade schools are open for an hour after school with regular day-school teachers in charge. They are not organized playgrounds. Several private organizations are also doing a great deal in the way of furnishing recreations of a good type. Several of these have furnished supervision for activities conducted in public buildings.

On the whole the divided character of the supervision of recreations in Indianapolis is the greatest obstacle to the full use of the facilities the city now has. A similar obstacle is the lack of a common policy among private organizations.

**NEED OF TRAINED DIRECTORS AND YEAR ROUND ACTIVITIES**—Next to its divided character the greatest need of Indianapolis, compared with other cities, is the employment of trained recreation leaders in charge of centers of recreation in neighborhoods. Men and women trained to this work, knowing intimately the needs of the neighborhood and living in it make the recreation center a valuable reinforcement of home life and school work.

The summer playgrounds and baths have demonstrated how great numbers can be given good opportunities for play, and swimming and bathing, by means of organized methods. In one locality where a club house has been secured, the first year-round activities have been made possible. The Park Department has extended its facilities for free public use, and has begun the organized use of ball fields in parks. The good results of this kind of service indicate the large possibilities of a regular system of trained supervision in all recreative uses of parks. Teachers with other tasks have done a good deal to direct sports and other uses of leisure in the school system. Successful extension in this department of school work will also depend on more paid supervision by supervisors and leaders who give their entire time to recreation leadership.

## PART THREE

### Summary of Principal Needs

**SPECIFIC NEEDS IN BRIEF**—1. Children's playgrounds can be secured economically by making school yards available. These grounds need trained supervision after school hours, in the open season, and through the summer. Several schoolyards need to be enlarged. They are too small for recess use or for adequate after-school play.

2. There are in the city no recreation centers or "play-parks." Playfields—either separate or as parts of parks—are needed in the more populous districts. These are needed mainly for youth and adults.

3. In order to standardize the recreation service and show what is possible, the city needs a large well-equipped recreation center and playfield, organized to meet the needs of a large number of people; a well surfaced, fenced and equipped schoolyard as a model children's playground; and permanent outdoor and indoor bathing establishments of approved type.

4. In acquiring large playfields as distinguished from children's playgrounds, it will be a measure of economy for the Park Board and the School Board to co-operate in a well-understood policy. Some fields are available on park land connected with the boulevard system. Some must be separate park properties. Others can well be enlarged schoolyards.

5. The recreative uses of the outlying parks can be still further extended by more organized methods.

6. The use of school buildings as social and recreation centers will meet important community needs in certain parts of the city. Such centers need trained leaders in charge, acting for the community and under school authority. It is logical to develop the first centers in schools that already have considerable use of the plant. Community uses of buildings by parent-teacher associations and others should be encouraged.

7. More public bathing facilities are needed—(1) River baths such as have been operated, with permanent houses where possible; (2) outdoor pools in connection with centrally located playfields with field houses; (3) shower baths (and tub baths) in field houses or school buildings; (4) the first indoor pool or natatorium in a central location.

8. In planning new school buildings, provision should be made for physical training in school houses and for the extended use of the building as a community center. This means an auditorium easily accessible and with

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adequate exits, arranged so that it can be used as a gymnasium, unless a separate gymnasium is provided; wide corridors and convertible rooms add much to the use of a building. Basements can be arranged for shower baths and locker-rooms.

9. Private philanthropic organizations furnishing recreation need a common understanding to prevent duplication and to co-operate with public authorities in developing an adequate recreation system.

10. The greatest fundamental need is a unified administration of all the city's recreation facilities.

**SUPERVISION AND LEADERSHIP EMPHASIZED**—Both playgrounds and recreation centers need resourceful and usually trained leadership. Sometimes the main emphasis has been put on the acquisition of facilities without realizing the importance of supervision. No greater mistake could be made. The increasing number of cities with well-established, successful year-round public recreation systems are furnishing cumulative experience showing the necessity of securing trained directors to get the greatest possible use from the city's facilities. The organized summer playgrounds in Indianapolis have illustrated this principle. But there is an added advantage when year-round positions are created and the recreation leader becomes identified with the interests of a community or neighborhood.

One city has a bare field without apparatus. Day after day scores of boys can be seen on it engaged in a variety of active sports with all the vim we have a right to expect from vigorous boys; and groups of girls on another part of the ground—the result of organization by a trained director and an assistant. Equipment is very desirable, but some ideally furnished grounds have shown disappointing results and stilted activities, because of incompetent leadership. Playgrounds have been monopolized by a few rowdies—or made unfit places for play because of no leadership.

Many cities are exercising great care in the selection and training of those who have charge of play and recreation centers. These are in a true sense educational centers, for the play and the industrial work given in them are but different forms of natural and desirable activity. For this reason they should be in charge of leaders who fundamentally understand the importance of making the playtime join with home and school in the interest of complete education.

**NEED OF AN ADEQUATE SYSTEM**—In furnishing an adequate system for Indianapolis there are certain favorable conditions,—a growing park system as a physical basis for many recreation activities, unused assets in the school yards and buildings, a system of supervised playgrounds and baths and increased funds for supervision maintenance.

The nature and size of the present task is indicated by the fact that more

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

than half the population of school age (over 55,000) live in neighborhoods without permanent provision for outdoor play, and that little more than a beginning has been made in providing neighborhood indoor centers of recreation. Recreation for young people over school age and for adults is important. Men and women must live as well as earn a living. The large majority of the population will be increasingly dependent upon the public recreation system for a large part of their recreational life. Predictions place this population at 305,000 in 1920 and 414,000 in 1932.

The relation of good recreation to the bad influences that exist in a city, to delinquency and crime and vice, ought to be well understood. It is bad business to be spending thousands on court procedure, jails and reformatories, when smaller sums spent on constructive measures will remove many of the causes. Give the young people lots of open air, teach them good habits of exercise, and furnish them with vigorous play and joyous work, and they will habitually do these things. Active and virile boys and young men, healthy and vigorous girls and young women, with a fair outlook upon life, thrive in a city that holds to its natural resources and stimulates outdoor recreations, normal home and social pleasures, elevating intellectual pursuits and other refining influences in the hours of leisure.

In connection with the educational system of the city hundreds of thousands of dollars are already being spent in the careful training of children and young people in the schools. It is poor economy to exercise great care up to one o'clock or four o'clock, and then turn youth and children on the streets to have a large part of the work undone. An efficient educational system must make sure that the leisure time is operated in thorough co-operation and is sustaining the work of the home and of the school. Hundreds of cities have recognized this fact by incorporating supervised play and recreation into the school system, or at least under school supervision. A good recreation system—including parks, playgrounds, baths and other recreation centers—is a business asset for a city in the same sense that a good school system or a good transportation system is an asset, because it makes the city a better place in which to live.

The fact that lives are happier, and citizens of all ages are healthier, and that their outlook upon life is brighter, would be justification enough for an adequate recreation system, even were these other compelling reasons not operative.

# **Part Four**

## **Administration**

## PART FOUR

### Administration

**UNIFIED ADMINISTRATION NECESSARY**—In order to make use of the facilities that the city has, and to make the needed improvements, unity of action through a unified method of administration of recreation is the first essential. The Park Department has large resources in its parks and playfield sites, and its ability to acquire more fields. The School Committee has its school buildings and its school yards. The Recreation Department of the Board of Health is charged with the supervision of play and recreation activities and has a considerable fund for the purpose. To get the facilities used implies a working arrangement between the departments.

A study of successful recreation systems in 28 cities of over 100,000 where a similar problem exists (the utilization of the resources of all departments by a unified system for supervision of activities) shows that eight of these cities have a commission, a public recreation committee, or a similar arrangement by which a single specially created recreation board directs recreation activities and other boards are represented; and that in two other cities a private organization uses public funds to administer the recreation facilities of the city. In eight cities Park Boards and School Boards provide for supervision of activities, and in five of these a single general superintendent has directed the activities of both departments. In five cities the supervision of recreation activities is in the hands of the park department.

While it is true that the form of administration has varied, it is likewise true that the plan of a single board or at least a common understanding by which the supervision of all recreation activities becomes unified, is absolutely necessary to bring the best results. Without some such plan a broad recreation policy which meets needs in their order, and combines the resources of a city under uniformly effective supervision, is impossible.

**SUCH A PLAN FOR INDIANAPOLIS**—A committee representing health, park, and school boards and the citizen interest appears to be the logical means of developing an adequate, unified, recreation policy in Indianapolis. This, of course, implies the working out of definite arrangements consistent with the duties and policies of the boards represented. A similar plan is now in operation in a number of cities.

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

The Health Board in Indianapolis has funds for securing directors and organizers of play and recreation activities. The Park Department has not only parks and playfields, but the planning ability and the working force to make recreation grounds beautiful. The School Board has not only grounds and buildings, but the educational point of view that is fundamental in a recreation system. A public recreation committee, even with a quasi-legal status can constantly plan for recreation activities in regular meetings, always securing the approval of the boards concerned before new policies are initiated.

A common system of supervision under a representative board means economy and efficiency in developing the recreation system. The consideration that there is possibility of friction in the use of the same facilities by two different boards is more than offset by the useless expense involved in purchasing new facilities, thus duplicating suitable property already owned by the city. For this reason present facilities should be used, the exact powers of each board in relation to a given proposition clearly defined, and all boards brought to share in the working out of a common policy. An analogous case is the development of traffic and convenience in living by different boards using streets (water, electric, gas and transportation systems all involved) without obtaining new facilities elsewhere at great expense. Furthermore, the feasibility of such a plan as far as play and recreation are concerned, is attested by its successful operation in a number of cities.

**ESSENTIALS**—The experience of other cities points to these essentials in developing a permanent, successful recreation system:

- (1) A superintendent, and an increasing number of recreation directors devoting their entire time to this work. This supervisory force should be as competent as possible, trained by experience and schooling for this particular work, devoting themselves exclusively to the needed activities of children, youth and adults in leisure time.

- (2) Regular and sufficient funds for the maintenance and supervision of recreation.

- (3) A permanent board in charge of the work. The recreation superintendent needs the backing and the active interest of a board or committee whose members have a primary interest in the success of the recreation system and who in combination represent its various elements.

# PART FIVE

## Recommendations

### I. NEXT STEPS IN SECURING RECREATION FACILITIES

**A UNIFIED PLAN AND POLICY**—A policy in keeping with plans of the public and private authorities concerned with recreation, leads to the following suggestions for the immediate future. These involve as a first step, natural and suitable working arrangements between various authorities, public and private, now controlling facilities. Administration from this standpoint has been discussed.

**PLAYGROUNDS FOR CHILDREN**—The operation of children's grounds in summer at locations where there is free use of grounds and adjacent buildings, viz: the Court House, Christamore Settlement, opposite Butler Memorial on South Meridian Street, next to the library at Norwood, and at Brightwood Clubhouse. Summer use of a number of schoolyards selected from the following: Schools No. 7, 12, 31, 22, 39, 9, 26, 2, 5, 24, 52, 53, and others. One or two of these to be surfaced and equipped as model school yard grounds. Another possible location is near School 16 and the Lauter Memorial Building. If possible, after school hours and Saturdays, in the open season, Spring and Fall, trained play-leaders should be placed on school yards. Children's playgrounds on park spaces adjacent to thickly settled districts need play-leaders, in case no schoolyard organized as a playground is near; for example, Military Park, Spade's Place, etc.

**PLAYFIELDS FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS**—Willard Park, to be graded and equipped for baseball and other sports, so that an organized field can be operated; then the completion of the plan for a recreation center there as a standard for this type of play-park. A South Side field to be purchased near the most thickly settled part of the South Side, and to be graded, equipped and organized. A colored boys' playground has been recently acquired on Almont Street in Ward 1, and will be operated. Playfields west and north of the Capitol are needed. The Merritt Playground should soon be improved. Another location is needed further east to serve the colored population, either side of Indiana Avenue.

**BATHING AND SWIMMING**—Supervised swimming places in summer on the banks of streams and other locations to be continued, as they are

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

an economical method of serving large numbers. Outdoor pools ought to be a part of the improvement of certain playgrounds or playfields. A central, permanent, year-round bathing establishment is much needed (see Future Development), and the plan for its location and improvement should be made. An economical means of giving bathing opportunities to children (and adults as well) in some districts is by installing shower baths and tub baths in school buildings.

**RECREATIVE USES OF LARGER PARKS**—At Riverside, Garfield and other parks more of the organized methods such as have already been initiated to stimulate baseball and other field sports, tennis, golf, canoeing, family-parties, picnic groups, etc., etc. A trained supervisor is needed for this purpose, with directors at Riverside, Garfield, Brookside, Willard Park, etc.

**INDOOR NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS**—(1) Needed neighborhood recreations and useful occupations can be increased indoors by the use of school buildings after school hours and evenings. The Parent-Teachers' Association, in co-operation with other representative organizations, is studying local needs and approved methods so as to present a feasible plan. The employment of trained leadership is the first essential. The good uses made of the library buildings has been demonstrated by the Women's Department Club, and should be extended. (2) Private organizations with adequate buildings can organize more needed activities in their communities.

**SUPERVISION**—(1) The employment of permanent, trained directors and supervisors. This is essential to develop a year-round recreation system such as exists in other cities and is needed here. Such directors are needed to develop the recreative uses of parks, to administer the recreation center or play-park and field house with indoor activities, and in order to carry on the more extended use of school buildings.

(2) Training courses with consequent increased efficiency of directors, play-leaders and assistants on playgrounds. Similar courses for those wishing to engage in play and recreation leadership.

**PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS**—In the course of the survey it was found that a plan had some time ago been suggested for federating the work of private organizations doing neighborhood work. This would admirably meet one of the needs of the situation. At present, organizations doing work for children and young people, and some settlement associations, are independently extending their activities. A common plan is needed to increase the number of effective neighborhood centers under trained leadership and prevent duplication. Plans for common sources of support through contributions, or at least saving in managerial expense, can be worked out. At the same time the individual identity of organizations and their

vested interests can be preserved, if desirable or necessary. Such a common organization will be of inestimable help to the public recreation system. It can conduct recreation activities on a larger scale, and can co-operate with and supplement public playgrounds and recreation centers just as individual organizations are doing in a measure at the present time.

## II. FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADEQUATE RECREATION SYSTEM

After the next steps suggested have been instituted, the further progress in securing adequate facilities for the recreation of young and old in Indianapolis should be made with the following objects in view:

(1) Increasing the number of children's playgrounds year by year by operating more schoolyards in summer. In many districts in Spring and Fall these yards, now open till 4 P. M., should be under play-leaders and open for a longer time.

(2) Additional playfields, a half-mile radius covering the natural district served. The Merritt Playground, the ground at West Indianapolis, at Brookside Park, and at locations on Fall Creek, are the next natural points in the present park system. But to meet needs in their order, new park and school properties should be considered in a common policy. The next development should be at the Technical Institute grounds, with fields for High School pupils and a community center for all ages. Certain enlarged school yards can serve as fields.

(3) Additional indoor recreation centers planned for districts as needed, by the use of school buildings, field houses and club houses. In this case, also, a half-mile radius usually covers the natural district served.

(4) Bathing facilities—A permanent bath-house, outdoor and indoor baths, at the Military Park site. In time the temporary summer river baths made permanent, by acquiring sites and erecting bath houses. Outdoor pools near the field houses of playfields in congested districts. Basements or other parts of school buildings fitted with baths, and new buildings planned with this possibility in view.

(5) New Activities—Two influences, the increase in the number of people engaged in recreation leadership as a profession here, and suggestions from the park and recreation development in other large cities will suggest numbers of new activities. Outdoors, among the children, these are countless. Indoor games and other pursuits likewise have great variety. In play-parks and scenic parks, baseball, football, golf and tennis are always the "popular" sports; but more of other games like outdoor bowling, cricket, field-hockey, and lacrosse come with organization. Winter sports are possible in season. Regular music festivals and pageants may become organized

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

parts of the recreation system. Trained leadership and the increasing emphasis on the educational bearing of recreation bring certain industrial activities prominently forward. Manual training, domestic science, and other useful pursuits as equipment and leadership are provided, should become more common at recreation centers.

(6) Commercial recreations, being the largest factor in furnishing amusements, must maintain high standards through co-operation or by control. This result can be best obtained in Indianapolis if present laws are enforced and well intentioned managers encouraged to conduct amusements of the best class. But civic bodies concerned with this matter should keep informed of conditions and co-operate to prevent deterioration. If conditions should make it necessary, an additional system of inspection and censorship in connection with granting or withholding licenses is possible. A thorough discussion of the principles that underlie municipal regulation of commercial recreation is contained in the March, 1914, issue of "The Playground."

## APPENDIX

- A. The Recreation Value of Commercial Recreations and Their Regulation.
- B. Tables.
- C. Maps.

### A. The Recreation Value of Commercial Recreations and their Regulation

MOTION PICTURES—To estimate the social effect of motion pictures is as difficult as to estimate that of the modern newspaper, because of the various elements to be considered. The quality of films supplied has improved and it has become possible for judicious managers to show on the average better subjects than formerly. In most houses a certain number of distinctly educational films appear. The great majority are comic or romantic drama, with the "feature films" becoming more numerous. These vary from those of the highest excellence to an objectionable form of over-heightened melodrama.

A fair statement of the good that should be recognized and the influences that should be avoided in the motion picture shows is about as follows: Their great popularity and the large combined attendance means that here is a tremendous social force. Its attractive power is due to the fact that for a few cents one can suddenly become the absorbed witness of stirring scenes. The cheap admission has made the motion picture house in a real sense the people's theatre. Family groups frequently attend, especially in the neighborhood houses. The impression made by an appeal to the eye constitutes an educational opportunity when the right subjects are displayed. On the other hand, the same power to impress makes the bad film a source of evil. A mediocre form of amusement results from the superficial character of a number of films that are classed as "drama." Low standard of taste may result from the exaggerated sentimentality and heightened melodrama of some films. By co-operation with managers who realize these points, or by censorship, if that should become necessary, the best standards need to be maintained.

Working people (and the motion picture is largely an adult amusement) evidently find value in the physical rest and new mental occupation after hard work. On the other hand, for the young especially, the habit of attendance

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

at any form of passive amusement ought not to take the place of active recreation.

**POOL ROOMS**—A good indication of conditions under which pool and billiards are played is derived from a study of 56 of the down-town places. More than 25 per cent. of these are in small rooms. One-third of the rooms are in the basement or in a second story, the remainder being on the first floor. In two-thirds the ventilation is decidedly poor, and in a larger proportion the lighting facilities are not good. Careful estimates as to the attitude of the managers of pool rooms toward gambling and the admission of minors, shows that less than 20 per cent. are strict in this respect, and that the remainder are either indifferent, lax, or consistently loose in their management. Giving due credit to a few places that are being well-managed, and where every effort is made to run a respectable place, the fact remains that the average pool room cannot be entered without encountering bad language and atmosphere, and incipient gambling. The latter evil seems almost inseparable from the great majority of pool rooms. (The large number of games played on a table readily lend themselves to wagers, and side bets by the bystanders and onlookers are frequent. Places with cigar stands usually have a dice box.) In fact, a large number of establishments would prove unprofitable without the opportunity for these things. Even where the management is strict, gambling can go on without being detected, or can be conducted in such a way that it is not natural or easy to restrict it.

Pool and billiards are games of skill that are in themselves attractive, the former especially to young men, and the latter to a smaller number of devotees. They ought to be provided under good conditions. Establishments that have as the basis of their trade the pure attraction of these games, and nothing else, are not numerous.

The democracy of the pool room, the fact that it provides a center where men can do about as they like and find companionship, is an element in its attraction to great numbers. It is for this reason that everything possible should be done to provide good attractive meeting places for men under the very best of conditions, with something active that they like to do. Large numbers evidently do not get the social companionship they want without resorting to the poolroom or the saloon. A considerable proportion seek rooms in bad surroundings because they like them. Evidently the social condition which is at the basis of this problem will not be materially improved without a persistent campaign of education affecting the habits of young men.

**PUBLIC DANCES**—Visits to a number of public dances show much variety in character. In several instances proprietors are managing well-conducted affairs with every attempt to observe the proprieties and prevent the attendance of undesirable persons. In others there is laxity, particularly in regard to the surroundings of the dance. The general admission of the public

## INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

at such dances means a certain inevitable percentage of questionable characters. In a few cases this laxity is noticeable, particularly at late hours, in the kind of dancing, drinking, and general unconventional conduct.

In considering the dance as a form of amusement, a sound point of view is necessary. It must be recognized that dancing in its broadest sense is popular in response to two natural instincts,—the desire for expressing abounding spirits in motion and rhythm, and the mutual desire of young men and women for companionship and social acquaintance. These may often be met in other ways, but the dance is popular because it has this double attraction. On account of the danger of evil being encountered by those who seek innocent pleasure, it is essential that dancing shall take place under the best possible conditions. This can be achieved by regulation, and by constructive measures. Neighborhood centers with all kinds of activity are needed. If dancing is included, this kind, with a natural basis of acquaintanceship, is the best sort. Because of the large floating population that inevitably patronize "down town" dances, it is also necessary to safeguard their character by regulation. It is likewise to be noted that municipal dances as operated in other cities are another means of meeting this phase of the public amusement situation.

**MAINTENANCE OF STANDARDS**—Though the law does not provide for the inspection of motion picture films in Indianapolis, the situation in that respect is much better than in many large cities. The licenses for amusement houses refer only to matters pertaining to the buildings, their location and arrangements for safety and sanitation. Without any outside regulation other than official and public opinion, several of the best motion picture houses have set a standard in the character of the films displayed that has had a good effect on the general standard of all the houses. Most all of this business is locally owned and managed. Thus far it has been possible for fairly good standards to prevail, through the initiative of the managers themselves. The outright objectionable film has been the exception. It appears occasionally. Under present conditions, it seems possible for the leaders of enlightened public opinion to gain through co-operation a standard that other cities have had to maintain through a system of film inspection. However, the business is so large and its influence so important that public opinion, represented by public authorities and civic organizations, should be informed as to conditions, and ready with suggestions as to improvement. Should conditions change for the worse, a system of film inspection is advisable. Such systems are in operation in Cleveland, Detroit and Kansas City.

An ordinance of 1906 requires each dance not held in a private residence to be licensed. The character of the public dance in Indianapolis can be and has been to an extent controlled through the licensing power in the hands of

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

the Police Department. To have the requisite knowledge on which to base the granting or withholding of a license, so as to guard the character of dances, most cities have found it necessary to authorize the presence at public dances of an officer or some person representing the licensing authority. In Indianapolis this is not required. An ordinance of 1913 requires the presence of a matron at all public dances, and it is the practice for those managing dances to have such a person present. The success of the authorities in carrying out the intent of this ordinance appears to depend upon the extent to which such matrons act in the interest of the public. The effect of this regulation depends upon the co-operation of those managing the affair. They hire the matrons who are naturally responsible to them first.

Among the regulations that have proved effective elsewhere in meeting some of the bad conditions that exist are the following: (1) Absolute prohibition of the sale of liquor at a public dance, or in the building where such a dance is held. (2) No granting of return checks, so that saloons in the neighborhood may not be patronized in intermissions. (In some instances a number of intermissions are lengthened to allow drinking). (3) Reasonable hours of closing. (4) Regular inspection by police, not only to regulate the dance, but to report conditions on which licenses can be withheld or other penalties imposed.

The activity of police authorities in suppressing gambling has already had marked effect on the conditions in poolrooms. In several instances the failure of proprietors to renew poolroom licenses has been due to this activity. Evidently the worst poolrooms cannot conduct business at a profit without gambling. Rigid enforcement of law must be the chief means of improvement in conditions at it puts a premium on men seeking amusement in respectable places.

## B. Tables

TABLE I.

### CAPACITY AND ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE AT EXHIBITION AMUSEMENTS

Type	Houses	Capacity	Weekly Attendance
Motion Picture Shows in Center of Town	22	8,316	166,320
Neighborhood Motion Picture Shows	48	18,142	154,207
Vaudeville and Burlesque (in two motion pictures combined)	7	9,400	75,200
Legitimate Drama and Opera	3	4,956	24,780
	80*	40,814	420,780

\*(Not counting 13 air domes.)

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE II

LIST OF THEATRES AND MOVING PICTURE SHOWS WITH  
LOCATION AND TYPE OF HOUSE AS GIVEN BY THE  
CITY CONTROLLER'S DEPARTMENT

LOCATION	NAME	TYPE OF HOUSE
—A—		
19 S. Addison St.		Airdome
—B—		
1660 Bellefontaine St.		Moving Picture
Blaine & Howard		Airdome
Blake & Ohio		Airdome
Blaine & Howard	Hilltop Amusement Co.	Moving Picture
443 N. Blake	Emerald Theatre	Moving Picture
—C—		
2451 Central		Moving Picture
2959 Central	Cap. City Amusement Co.	Moving Picture
4005 Cornelius Ave.		Airdome
19th & College	Stratford Theatre	Motion Picture
2407 College		Motion Picture
19th & College	Comique	Motion Picture
—D—		
Del. btw. Market & Ohio	Columbia Theatre	Burlesque
N. Delaware	Hench Opera House	.....
—E—		
801 S. East	Appollo Theatre	Motion Picture
1129 S. East	Fotoplay Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
—F—		
505 Fulton St.		Airdome
951 Ft. Wayne Ave.		Moving Picture
—G—		
Gale & 25th		Moving Picture
—H—		
Hudson & 16th	People's Amusement Co.	Moving Picture
—I—		
443 Indiana Ave.	Our Theatre	Moving Picture
524 Indiana Ave.	Columbia Theatre	Moving Picture
784-6 Indiana Ave.		Moving Picture
521 Indiana Ave.		Moving Picture
118 S. Illinois St.		Moving Picture
131 S. Illinois St.		Moving Picture
Ill. btw. Md. & Ga.	Majestic	Burlesque
19 S. Illinois St.	Vaudette	Motion Picture
2175 N. Illinois St.		Motion Picture
134-38 N. Illinois St.		Motion Picture
119 N. Illinois St.	Crystal	Motion Picture
135 N. Illinois St.	Lyric	Motion P. & Vaude.
Illinois & New York	Colonial	Motion P. & Vaude.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

LOCATION	NAME	TYPE OF HOUSE
—K—		
15-17 Kentucky Ave.	Family Theatre	Vaudeville
—L—		
London & 30th Sts.		Motion Picture
—M—		
16-18 W. Market St.	Royal Theatre	Motion Picture
113 W. Market St.	Starland Theatre	Motion Picture
2508-10 W. Michigan St.		Motion Picture
2540 W. Michigan St.	Palace Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
2208 W. Michigan St.		Motion Picture
2627 W. Michigan St.	West Side Theatre	Motion Picture
2129 E. Michigan St.		Motion Picture
Mass. Ave. & St. Clair	Idle Hour Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
430-32 Mass. Ave.	Iroquois Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
922 Mass. Ave.		Motion Picture
858 So. Meridian	Princess Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
Meridian & Kansas		Motion Picture
1751 So. Meridian St.		Motion Picture
1101 So. Meridian St.	Oriental Theatre	Motion Picture
Martindale & 19th Sts.	Atlas Theatre	Motion Picture
Monument Place.	English Opera House	Theatre & Opera
—N—		
New Jersey & Mass. Ave.	Shubert Murat	Theatre & Opera
Northwestern & 25th St.		Motion Picture
2628 Northwestern		Motion Picture
Noble & Michigan	Noble Theatre	Motion Picture
4020 E. New York		Airdome
711 W. New York		Airdome
733 N. Noble	Liberty Amusement Co.	Airdome
—O—		
1223 Oliver Ave.	Savoy Theatre	Motion Picture
—P—		
1106 Prospect St.		Motion Picture
Penn. btw. Market & Ohio	B. F. Keith's	Vaudeville
—R—		
1502 Roosevelt		Motion Picture
Roosevelt & 16th		Airdome
Raymond & Shelby		Airdome
—S—		
1117 Shelby		Motion Picture
1319 N. Senate		Motion Picture
Sixteenth & Yandes		Airdome
1320 E. 16th		Motion Picture
—T—		
2735 E. Twenty-fifth		Motion Picture
2116 E. Tenth	Hamilton Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
2127 E. Tenth		Airdome
2925 E. Tenth	Pastime Theatre	Motion Picture
Talbot & 22nd	North Side Amusement Co.	Motion Picture

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

LOCATION	NAME	TYPE OF HOUSE
—U—		
1075 Udell St.		Motion Picture
—V—		
533 Virginia Ave.	Continental Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
1044-46 Virginia Ave.		Motion Picture
733 Virginia Ave.	Virginia Theatre	Motion Picture
—W—		
2104 E. Washington St.		Motion Picture
2206 E. Washington St.	Cosmos Theatre	Motion Picture
2442 E. Washington St.	Tacoma Electric Theatre	Motion Picture
2700 E. Washington St.	Twilight Theatre	Airdome
130 E. Washington St.	Bijou	Motion Picture
E. Wash. near N. Jersey	Gayety	Vaudeville
504 E. Washington St.	Scenic Theatre	Motion Picture
431 E. Washington St.		Motion Picture
1248 E. Washington St.	Vista Amusement Co.	Motion Picture
136 W. Washington St.	Gem Theatre	Motion Picture
W. Washington St.	Manhattan Theatre	Motion Picture
3005 W. Washington St.		Motion Picture
430 W. Washington St.	Best Theatre	Motion Picture
Wash. & Capitol Ave.	Lyceum Theatre	Theatre
Wash. near Illinois St.	Alhambra	Motion Picture
1202 N. West St.	Manilla Theatre	Motion Picture

## SHOOTING GALLERIES AND SKATING RINKS

### LOCATION

428 Indiana Ave.	Galleries
116 S. Illinois St.	Galleries
852 Massachusetts Ave.	Galleries
527 Massachusetts Ave.	Galleries
635½ W. Washington St.	Galleries
Riverside	Galleries
Riverside	Rink

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE III

### JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN INDIANAPOLIS, APRIL 1, 1912, TO MARCH 31, 1913

Facts furnished by Miss Isabelle Somerville

#### CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES

Offenses Against Property	Offenses Against Public Order	Offenses Against Persons
Petit Larcency ... 160	Idling and	Assault and Battery 30
Grand Larcency 4	Loitering ..... 26	Drawing Deadly
Trespass ..... 3	Incorrigibility .... 103	Weapons ..... 1
Burglary ..... 4	Shooting in city	<u>31</u>
Housebreaking .. 3	limits ..... 2	
Receiving Stolen	Truancy ..... 40	
Goods ..... 1	Carrying Concealed	
Arson ..... 2	Weapons ..... 2	
Malicious trespass 19	Jumping on cars .. 11	
<u>196</u>	Drunkenness ..... 1	
	Disorderly conduct 8	
	Profanity ..... 2	
	Running Away... 3	
	Gaming ..... 9	
	Immorality ..... 27	
	<u>234</u>	

Total ..... 461

#### SUMMARY BY MONTHS

	Boys	Girls		Boys	Girls
April, 1912 ..... 36	5	October, 1912 ..... 30	7		
May, 1912 ..... 38	14	November, 1912 .... 31	12		
June, 1912 ..... 33	11	December, 1912 .... 28	5		
July, 1912 ..... 37	10	January, 1913 ..... 36	6		
August, 1912 ..... 21	11	February, 1913 .... 27	8		
September, 1912 .... 24	11	March, 1913 ..... 15	5		
	<u>189</u>	<u>62</u>		<u>167</u>	<u>43</u>

Total, 461

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE IV PARK LANDS—AREA AND EQUIPMENT FOR ACTIVE RECREATION

NAME OF PARK	ACRES	Ball Fields	Tennis Courts	Golf Holes	Canoeing	Matron and Children's Play Space
Riverside (1) .....	930	8	9	45	X	X
Garfield (1) .....	128.52	3	4			X
Brookside (1) .....	93.05	5	6			X
Woollen's Garden (1) ....	44					
Ellenberger's Woods (1) ...	31.70	1	2	6		
Military Park (owned by State (2) .....	17.3					X
Willard Park (3) .....	14.71					
Fall Creek Parkway .....	190.19					
White River Parkway.....	45.55					
(Geo. Merrit Playground 36.22) (3)						
Brookside Parkway .....	34.09					
Pleasant Run Parkway ....	52.24					
Burdsal Parkway .....	11.49					
Spades Place (1) .....	10.4		3			X
University Sq. (owned by State)	4					
St. Clair Sq. (owned by State)	3					
Greenlawn .....	8					
Highland Square (2) .....	3.98					X
Morris Square (2) .....	1.95					X
Indianola Square (2) .....	1.62					X
McCarty Place (2) .....	1.22					X
Noble Place .....	.95					
Fletcher Triangle .....	.73					
Irving Circle .....	.53					

- (1) Scenic Parks with Active Sports.  
 (2) Squares with children's play space.  
 (3) Undeveloped fields or play parks.

TABLE A

## PLAY SPACE AND PLAYGROUND APPARATUS IN SCHOOL YARDS

1, Traveling ladders; 2, Basket ball goals; 3, Horizontal bars;  
4, Sec-saws; 5, Strides or May poles; 6, Tether poles; 7, Swing  
frames; 8, Sand boxes; 9, Slides or other equipment.

School No.	Approx. Play space in yard square feet	Enrollment Feb. 5, 1914	Play Space per pupil square feet	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	6,775	207	32.7	2				4				
2*	35,013	683	51.3	3	2		8			3		1
3	33,620	625	53.8	1	4	1		3		4		1
4	33,475	702	47.0	2			4	3	2		1	
5	13,732	334	41.1	1			1	2	4	4		
6	13,300	723	18.4	2	2	1	1	2		3		
7	17,385	456	38.1	2			4	3		2		
8	10,400	306	34.0							1		
9*	18,375	617	29.8	2	2	2		2		2		
10	61,678	641	96.2	2				2		3		
11	22,208	825	68.3		4	2		2		1		
12*	36,000	718	50.1			1		2		1		
13	17,638	411	43.0	1				3	1			
14	33,543	589	56.9	1			4	1		2		
15	25,550	695	36.8	2				1		2		
16*	15,658	604	25.9	2		1		4		2		
17	17,000	271	62.7	1				1	1	2		
18*	46,856	562	83.0	1	2	1		2		2		
19	10,920	153	71.4				4	2		1		
20	17,920	486	36.9	2				2		2		
21	433	433										
22	13,380	349	38.3					1		3		
23*	29,000	629	46.1			1		4		2		
24	18,000	521	34.5	2			2	3	2	3	2	
25	20,055	282	71.1					4		2		
26*	20,055	624	32.3							2		
27	20,403	322	62.7	2		1		4		2		
28	13,500	534	31.8	1		1	4	3	3	2	1	
29	17,000	534	31.8	1		1		4		2		
30	23,865	494	48.3	2	2			4	2			
Indianola Sq. near		61	48.3									
31	17,328	408	42.5					2	1	2		
32	19,000	619	30.7		4	1	4	2	1	3		
33	22,000	636	36.2	2		1	4	4	1	3		
34	16,224	207	78.4							3		
35	83,768	562	149.1		2	1	2	2		3	1	
36	49,000	562	90.0	1	2			2		3		
37	14,103	161	87.6									
38	22,000	185	118.9				4	1	1	5		
39	26,208	692	37.9			1			1	1		
40	9,880	290	34.1					2				1

41	23,000	1128	20.4	1	5	1	1
42	12,500	199	69.8	1	1	1	1
43	59,734	386	154.8				
44	74,727	512	145.9	1	1	2	2
45	36,000	634	58.5		4	3	3
46	13,000	367	35.4	2	4	1	1
47	28,000	507	51.3	1	3	3	3
48	17,334	159	109.0		2	2	2
49*	38,212	699	54.7		3	3	3
50	33,320	595	56.0		1	1	1
51*	35,021	778	45.0		2	2	2
52*	24,785	813	30.6	1	1	3	3
53	4,373	221	19.8				
54	12,992	655	19.8		4	1	1
55*	49,320	686	71.9			1	1
56	47,200	221	21.4	2	6	3	3
57	36,960	654	56.5	1	1		
58	27,880	539	51.7		2	2	2
59		133			10		
60	28,900	878	31.8		2	2	2
61	11,475	275	41.7	1	3	2	2
62	89,488	85	1052.8				
63**	30,000	97	309.3				
64**		152			1		
65**	20,544	28	73.4				

20,544

## Manual Training High

Shortridge High School

Technical High School (Institute grounds)

"Colored Schools, †Evening Schools, \* Vacation Schools.

TABLE VI

# FACILITIES IN GRAMMAR SCHOOL BUILDINGS

(Assembly Halls, Usable Corridors, Industrial Rooms, Etc.)

School No.	Approx. size Assembly hall space corridor	Usable Corridors	Man. Train. Room	Kitchen	Sewing Room	Other Empty Rooms	Next to Library Building
1		15x30 15x30	1				
2*	90x90	(12x60) (12x60) (12x60) (12x30) (15x20) (15x40) (15x40)	2 1 2 2 3 3 3			X	
3	60x70	(15x50) (15x50)	1			X	X
4	25x40	25x25 25x25 25x25	1 2		X		
5		25x25	1				
6		25x25 25x25 25x25 25x25	1 2 3				
7	50x50	12x50 12x50 12x50 40x25 40x25	1 2 2 1				
8		18x20 12x120 12x120	2 1 1	X	X	X	
9*	35x40	20x50	X	X			
10	69x47	20x50 20x50 20x50 (35x40) (35x40) (35x40)	2 1 1 2 2 2	X	X		
11		25x40 25x40 25x40 25x40 25x25 25x25 (40x40) (40x40) (40x40) (12x100) (12x100)	1 1 1 2 2 2 1 1 1 1 1	X			
12*†		30x35 30x35 30x35 30x35 18x70 18x70	1 1 1 1 2 2	X			
13	35x40 75x75	20x60 20x60	X			X	
14		15x40 25x40 25x40		X	X		
15				X			
16*	40x70		X				
17"			X				
18*	80x100		X				
19"			X				
20							
21							
22							
23*†			X				
24"							
25				X	X		X
26*				X			



# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE VII

School	Average Home	
No.	Facilities	Conditions in the District
1	<i>Poor or fair</i>	Congested district. Great need for children's play space.
2	<i>Poor or fair</i>	Homes of middle class, some poor. Need of play in district.
3	<i>Fair</i>	Mostly working people in good houses. Congested in parts and partly open. One very bad district.
4	<i>Poor; some fair</i>	Mostly small houses and large families. Street attracts. Young people loaf there and in stores, and attend shows. Parents say they cannot keep children at home. "The school should be the social center, with reading room, clean entertainments, and a playground open all the time under supervision."
5	<i>Very poor</i>	Houses mostly small. No available play space except at Military Park. 25 per cent of population foreign-born (mostly Polish, Hungarian, Servian, etc.) Large families. Settlement doing much good.
6	<i>Very Poor</i>	Houses small; most families large. Boys' Club in district. No place for girls to go to have a good time.
7	<i>Very poor</i>	Much need of children's play and a strong director. Very needy district. Poor families. Bathing facilities needed.
8	<i>Poor</i>	Boys want play. Almost no yard; no open spaces in district.
9	<i>Very poor</i>	A social and recreation center would fill a great need. Very needy section. Majority of children have both parents at work.
10	<i>Poor</i>	Small houses; large families in east part. Play on railroads and streets. Part of district good homes; part a poor section with little home life.
11	<i>Poor</i>	Playground supervised at all times would be a great benefit. District has changed. Houses smaller, families larger. Few open spaces.
12	<i>Very poor</i>	Many homes in immediate vicinity of school offer no opportunities for recreation. Schoolyard the only sizable play space. A gymnasium indoors and a well-supervised playground outdoors would do much good. Very needy district.
13	<i>Poor</i>	Near to Nos. 7 and 8. About same conditions as in the latter.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

- 14 *Fair*—Homes appear to mean much in leisure of most of the children. A district that is filling in. Highland Park and Technical Institute grounds are near.
- 15 *Fair to good*—Mostly families in good homes. Some well-to-do. District growing fast.
- 16 *Very poor*—Lauter Memorial Building can fill a great need. More play space needed for school. Very crowded conditions. Many families; two and three to a house.
- 17 *Poor (colored)*—Great need for more indoor recreations of the right sort. Most of the pupils in congested quarters at home (4 or 5 rooms). Need especially of open space for older boys.
- 18 *Fair to good*—Good deal of home life and healthy neighborhood life. Some exceptions. Park three-quarters mile away.
- 19 *Poor (colored)*—Small houses and large families. Children spend time on streets. Homes used little for recreation. Clubs and places outdoors for boys and girls needed.
- 20 *Fair to good*—As in other districts, great numbers attend moving pictures. Many families have music or other home attractions. Children much at home. Many good yards. Mostly good homes. No provisions for older boys outdoors. A field much needed. Vacant lots used a little.
- 21 *Poor*—Parents mostly hard-working. Children thrown on own resources. Homes count little as recreation centers. There are open spaces, but not used.
- 22 *Poor to fair*—Mostly good houses, small. Working people. A children's playground would do good. River bottoms much resorted to in summer.
- 23 *Poor (colored)*—Summer ground at Brighton Beach fills need for older boys and girls. Most homes in alleys of close-settled streets; small, with little home opportunity for recreation. 75 per cent of pupils from congested districts.
- 24 *Very poor (colored)*—Average houses of three rooms, and six or more in family. Young people on streets or in poolrooms. Needs are better play facilities and equipment, a social center, etc.
- 25 *Poor to fair*—Need for play space..
- 26 *Very poor (colored)*—Small houses. More wholesome social life among young people needed. Needs are: play facilities and equipment, extended use of school buildings for neighborhood, sanitation, law enforcement, a worker in special charge of these activities.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

- 27 *Good*—Most houses have small yards, but this does not satisfy the young boys and girls who love to play ball, tennis, etc. Many good homes, recreation habits good considering the facilities. Arrangements should be made for tennis court and ball ground, as there are still vacant lots.
- 28 *Poor to fair*—Needy district. Yard can be used for small children. No field in district.
- 29 *Fair*—Needs space for the play of children. Mostly modest but good houses. Partly a poor district near railroad.
- 30 *Poor to fair*—Houses mostly small, families of average size. Indianola Park adds much to opportunity for play of little children.
- 31 *Poor to fair*—Closely settled neighborhood of good, mostly small houses. Little outdoor play space. Needs children's ground very much. No fields for older boys.
- 32 *Fair to good*—School yard is fair-sized. Not many other large open spaces—rapidly disappearing.
- 33 *Fair*—Spades' Place and Technical Institute grounds are not far. Good homes; fairly open neighborhood; growing fast.
- 34 *Poor to fair*—Mostly working people. Need of neighborhood recreations. Plenty of open play space—near to Garfield Park. Need of organized play is felt.
- 35 *Good*—Good homes. Fine, large school yard and near to Garfield Park. Good type of neighborhood life.
- 36 *Fair to good*—A district of good houses, filling in fast. Large yard is needed.
- 37 *Very poor (colored)*—Open country. Pupils of this school mostly from dilapidated homes, usually two rooms, six in family. Needs "center" for recreation and social life.
- 38 *Poor*—Homes of working people. Community poorly provided with good opportunities.
- 39 *Fair to good*—Most houses rather small, families large. Children on streets a great deal. No playgrounds—a great need. Houses fairly good, sanitary as a rule, and most children well clothed. Lecture course in school popular with people.
- 40 *Poor (colored)*—Colored families in barns and back alleys. Most in two or three-room houses. Children play outside. Church organizations and Y. M. C. A. used by some; many do not.
- 41 *Fair*—Open district, growing very rapidly. Average homes good; some exceptions. Community life needs organization to meet growth.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

- 42 *Poor to fair (colored)*—Houses average four rooms, six in family. Some yards, but play facilities and equipment are needed at the school.
- 43 *Good*—Open district; large new ground. School draws mostly from well-provided homes. Many vacant lots, and woods near; also near to Fairview Park.
- 44 *Fair*—Open district; pupils mostly from well-provided homes. Other influences make good recreation for young people a necessity.
- 45 *Good*—A good residential district. Families of medium size. Some homes much used. Fairly good opportunities for outdoor sports. Recreation facilities seem adequate for the present.
- 46 *Poor to fair*—Small houses of working people. Growing rapidly. Need for children's play space becoming more acute. Near to some open spaces.
- 47 *Poor*—Poor district. Need of spaces for children's play. Need of good types of indoor recreation.
- 48 *Poor*—Need of good types of indoor recreation.
- 49—*Fair*—A district with both poor and good houses. Library and school building much used. Need for good indoor recreations.
- 50 *Fair to good*—Houses of average size, used to a reasonable extent for spending leisure. District that has some average yards. Library uses already providing some good opportunities.
- 51 *Poor to fair*—Closely settled in most parts. Some open territory. The organized playground used much in summer.
- 52 *Poor*—Mostly working people from the factories. Much loitering in the evening. Great need for best kind of active recreations and for other good methods of spending leisure. Need for outdoor play.
- 53 *Poor*—A district much like No. 52; more open, but becoming crowded; hemmed in by railroad and asylum grounds. Needs better facilities.
- 54 *Fair*—Houses good, but not used as should be. Most parents in comfortable circumstances. Moving picture shows draw largely. Much street play for an open district. School yard too small. Brookside Park used considerably.
- 55 *Very poor*—Very needy district. Clubs and children's summer ground at Christamore Settlement. Need for more open space for sports of youth. Practically all working people.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

- 56 *Very poor*—Small houses of working people, some very poor; many people out of work. Conditions not unlike those at No. 55, but further from facilities and opportunities. Ungraded open fields near. Social settlement fills a real need.
- 57 *Good*—A community of good homes. Can make good use of community school. College grounds and Ellenberger Woods available. Schoolyard large and needs to be kept so.
- 58 *Fair*—Mostly working people in small, good homes. Some open space in district; growing fast. School and its grounds need to be adequate to meet future needs.
- 59 No comment on district. Children live in Orphans' Home. Plenty of open space next to school building, now set out with trees and ungraded. Great need of an organized playground here, recess and after school.
- 60 *Good*—Few districts with as good facilities for home recreation and opportunities for play. Plenty of open space, adequate yards, neighborly atmosphere.
- 61 *Fair*—Closely settled. Need of organized play for children. Field needed. Too far from Garfield Park.
- 62 *Fair*—Open district.
- 63 *Poor (colored)*—Much open space. Needy as far as social conditions are concerned. Homes average three rooms.
- 64 *Very poor (colored)*—Houses average three rooms. Open space, but much loafing about corners, in saloons, etc. The playground doing good. Worker and facilities to work with indoors needed.
- 65 *Poor (colored)*—Open district. Houses three rooms; very large families. No recreations organized, but much needed.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE VIII

### RECREATION PROVIDED BY PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS (Associations, Settlements, Churches, Philanthropic Clubs)

Facilities	{ Y. M. C. A. Colored Y.M.C.A. Y.W.C.A. 3 large buildings, assembly halls, gymnasia, pools, social rooms, etc.	6 Neighborhood clubs and settlements 2 houses, well equipped 4 smaller build- ings, partially equipped. 4 have gymnasia	8 Churches with weekly recreations Social uses of vestry or parish houses. 3 rooms fitted as gymnasia
Leadership	{ 23 paid workers, large number volunteers	14 paid workers a few volunteers	4 paid leaders; 6 churches depend on volunteers
Attendance weekly in winter	20,075	5,196	1,074
Total attendance		26,345	

Only such churches are listed as have more than one club or recreation activity at least weekly. Of course, most churches have monthly socials and there is a large amount of valuable social activity in homes and neighborhoods which is the outgrowth of the social life and acquaintance emanating from church attendance.

# INDIANAPOLIS RECREATION SURVEY

## TABLE IX

Showing Use of Libraries in 1913

### Circulation:

Total circulation of books for home use (year ending Sept., 1913) .....	544,076
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### Circulation of books for home use at 21 delivery stations:

At Branch libraries .....	233,002
At deposit stations and schools .....	57,004
At other delivery stations .....	18,389
	298,495

More than 50 per cent. of the 33,119 cards in force are for children.

### Location of Branches:

(Main Library, N. Meridian and Ohio Streets.)

(Branches are given in the order of their circulation for 1913.)

- \*Branch 6 (Commerce & Nowland) near Schools 33, 26 and 55.
- \*Branch 5 (1926 W. Morris) near Schools 49, 46 and 47.
- \*Branch 4 (1034 S. Alabama) near M. T. H. S. and Schools 6, 25, 22 and 13.
- \*Branch 3 (2822 E. Washington) near School 3.
- Illinois Branch (3355-37 N. Illinois) near School 60.
- Branch 1 (3101 Clifton) near School 41 and 42 and parochial school.
- Prospect Branch (1913 Prospect) near Schools 39, 20 and 19.
- \*Branch 2 (170 N. Mount) near School 50.
- Haughville Branch (519 Germania Ave.) near Schools 52 and 53 and parochial school.
- Bona Thompson (University and Downey Ave.) near School 57 and Butler College.
- McCarty Street. Branch (415 W. McCarty) near School 12 and parochial school.
- Brightwood Branch (2434 Station) near School 51 and parochial school.

(\*These five are Carnegie buildings with separate auditoriums.)

### Extended Use of Library Buildings:

Lectures, 42; Story-hours, 33; Club-meetings, 218; Social gatherings, entertainments, rehearsals, etc., 47; School uses for gymnastics, choruses, etc., 98. Total occasions, 465.











- ~ **LEGEND** ~
- ---- PARK PROPERTY
  - ▨ ---- PLAY FIELD SITES
  - ☆ ---- CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUNDS
  - ⊙ ---- PUBLIC SCHOOL YARDS
  - ⊛ ---- CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUNDS
  - ⊕ ---- RIVER BATHS & POOLS
  - ---- DISTRICTS NEEDING FIELDS
  - ▤ ---- TECH. INST. GROUNDS

PRESENT  
AND  
PLAYFIELDS AND PLAYGROUNDS  
FOR  
INDIANAPOLIS  
INDIANA



THIS Map represents the location of the youthful population (5 to 21 years), based on the school census districts.

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| I.   | Areas showing an average of 301 to 500 in 40 acres |
| II.  | " " " " " 251 to 300 " "                           |
| III. | " " " " " 201 to 250 " "                           |
| IV.  | " " " " " 151 to 200 " "                           |
| V.   | " " " " " 101 to 150 " "                           |
| VI.  | " " " " " 51 to 100 " "                            |
| VII. | " " " " " 1 to 50 " "                              |

Certain parts of large outlying districts marked VI and VII have portions in them where the congestion is much greater than indicated. As far as the play of small children is concerned these belong to more congested types. In other respects they are better situated because of open districts near at hand

Parks and cemeteries are not included in the reckoning of areas. Streets and alleys are included.



LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 029 712 993 4